

Message Text

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TAGS: OCOSOC, OCON, EGEN

SUBJECT: ECOSOC: REVIEW AND APPRAISAL COMMITTEE

MAY 21- JUNE 8, 1973

REF: STATE 073570

1. FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED REFTEL, AN EMBASSY OFFICER CALLED ON MFA VICE DIRECTOR FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS NENEMAN MAY 11 TO DISCUSS POLISH THINKING ON ECOSOC'S REVIEW AND APPRAISAL COMMITTEE. NENEMAN MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. THE POLES HAD BEEN DISAPPOINTED WITH THE INAGGURAL SESSION OF THE REVIEW AND APPRAISAL COMMITTEE LAST YEAR BECAUSE OF WHAT WAS FELT TO BE A LACK OF DIRECTION FOR THE COMMITTEE'S ACTIVITY. THE MINISTRY WAS THEREFORE APPROACHING THE FIRST SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE WITH SOME SKEPTICISM.

B. THE COMPOSITION OF THE POLISH DELEGATION TO THE COMMITTEE SESSION WAS AS YET UNKNOWN, BUT IT WAS VERY LIKELY THAT THE MATTER WOULD BE HANDLED BY POLAND'S REGULAR UN DELEGATION.

C. REGARDING POLAND'S CONCEPTION OF THE 2 ND UN DEVELOPING DECADE AND, IN THIS REGARD, THE WORK OF THE REVIEW AND APPRAISAL COMMITTEE, IT WAS FELT THAT ECOSOC SHOULD NOT BE USED AS A MEANS OF TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM
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THE RICH TO THE POOR NATIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, POLAND OPPOSED ANY MANDATORY AID QUOTAS AND FELT THAT THE MAIN EMPHASIS SHOULD BE ON TRADE AS A MEANS OF BETTERING THE ECONOMIC SITUATION OF THE THIRD WORLD. POLAND WAS AWARE OF THE TERMS OF TRADE PROBLEM AND WOULD BE WILLING TO ACCEPT MANUFACTURED GOODS FROM UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF LONG TERM AGREEMENTS, OR DEVELOP JOINT VENTURES. HOWEVER, PURELY MONETARY AID WAS FELT TO BE UNPRODUCTIVE.

D. CONCERNING DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY, POLAND FELT THAT SOCIAL QUESTIONS-- NEMAN SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED LAND REFORM-- SHOULD PRECEDE ANY LONG TERM INDUSTRIALIZATION MEASURES IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THIS QUESTION WAS, TO SOME EXTENT, IDEOLOGICAL, BUT IT WAS ALSO A QUESTION OF GOOD ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT.

E. SUMMING UP. NEMAN SAID THAT THE REVIEW AND APPRAISAL COMMITTEE SHOULD WORK TO INSURE CLOSER CO-OPERATION BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, BUT THAT THE MAIN EMPHASIS SHOULD BE SHIFTED FROM AID TO MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL TRADE RELATIONS.

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